

**REMARKS**

No new matter is introduced by this preliminary amendment. The claims have not been amended. The specification has been amended to identify two issued U.S. patents to which this application is related. In light of the above, early consideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

October 2, 2003

(Date of Transmission)

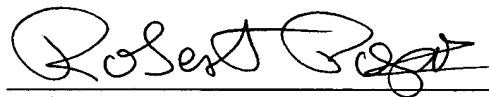
Alexis Karriker

(Name of Person Transmitting)

(Signature)

(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Popa

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 43,010

LADAS & PARRY

5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2100

Los Angeles, California 90036

(323) 934-2300 voice

(323) 934-0202 facsimile

rpopa@ladasperry.com